

DEPARTMENTAL WORKERS

Interesting Gossip Gleaned Among Employees of Government Bureaus

PENSION OFFICE CLERKS FISHING AT SEA

Vacation Time Gives Them Opportunities to Seek Marine Monsters—Texas Pioneers Who Ruled Mightily—Notes of Well-Known Men.

A couple of Pension Office clerks, who have been spending a fortnight at the seashore have returned chock-full of stories of adventures upon land and water. Over at Rehoboth on the Delaware coast, fishing has been particularly good, and according to these tourists they had their share of the sport. Fishing is conducted a little differently there than at most places, and is sometimes attended with considerable danger.

From Cape Henlopen down the coast for a good many miles there is no harbor or inlet offering safe refuge for sailing boats, so the only means of reaching the fishing banks, situated five miles out to sea, is in a fourteen-foot dory which is kept upon the beach, and when needed is launched through the surf—rather a hazardous piece of business, but there's lots of sport in it if one is given to strenuous doings.

The tourists wanted to take in everything so on day they engaged the services of one of the best boatmen on the coast to row them out to the grounds early the next morning. That night was a rather trying one. At supper the guests of the hotel were told of the little dory which had been taken out to sea, and that it had become dead weight when the boat was anchored out in the long swell some miles from shore.

The tourists retired early, and as they lay upon their couches visions of shipwrecks, capsize and storms rose as phantoms before the eye. Each of them half consciously began to debate in his mind the advisability of the trip, and to seek an excuse for its postponement.

One remembered an old tooth that had given him much trouble in former days, and tried to get up a first-class ache from it. The other one called to mind an indigestion, and began to bark a little, at the same time recalling what his physician had told him about salt air being injurious to bronchial troubles. However, it was no go and at 3 a. m. both came stamping down to the beach, each one hoping that something unforeseen would keep the other one indoors so that he himself would have a good excuse not to go.

The boatman, accompanied by an assistant was ready, and placing tackle, food, and several bottles of water—nothing but water—in the boat, the frail craft was shoved out through the breakers, and all hands scrambled aboard. Bouncing up and down like a cork, the little boat rode the surf, and two pairs of lusty arms soon got her clear of the rough water. One of the tourists was relieved to turn a little green while the other, in the attitude of a pious Bhuddist, seemed to be contemplating the infiniteness of things with gaze fixed upon the bottom of the boat. However, both were game, and no voice gave forth the command to "Pull for the shore."

An hour's hard rowing brought the party to the fishing grounds, where anchor was cast in thirty feet of water. Lines were baited and cast overboard instead of breakfasts as had been so confidently predicted by some of the dry ground sailors at the hotel. Sea bass was plentiful, and the boys soon had all they could do hauling them in and baiting up. Only once, when a school of porpoises began to gambol saucily around the boat, did one of the tourists cast his eyes toward the dim yellow streak representing the shore, and was heard to murmur something about being "so near and yet so far."

The boatman had been spinning yarns about big fish they had caught, and the tourists were going home one better when one of the latter, a jerk on his line as though a two-year-old Kentucky mule had become hobbled on the business end. The head boatman sententious remarked, "Shark," and drew his line in.

Then came a little royal. In wide circles around the boat, sometimes touching the light craft with him, went the monster. Tugging and sweating the tourist held the line while the boatman shifted his quid and looked on in amusement.

After a half hour's fight the shark was brought to the side, and as his head was pulled over the guano one of the tourists, forgetting where he was, shouted: "Great Scott! what a snake! Get a brick!"

A brick five miles out at sea.

Texas people in the departments never tire of talking of the pioneers. Lately a Treasury clerk was telling of some of the old-time judges—the men who established the courts, some before and some after the war. They were necessarily strong men, morally, physically, and mentally, and they were real terrors to wrongdoers. None of them were natives of Texas.

Foremost of the pioneer judges was R. E. B. Baylor, an eminent lawyer, an enthusiast for education, and a minister of the gospel. He was also a skilled performer on the violin. He was noted for his kindness of heart and consideration for the young. Baylor University was named in his honor.

Perhaps the most striking figure of the Texas judiciary was Col. John W. Durant. He was a judge, preacher, politician, farmer, and fighter. "Know-Nothings" were rampant in Texas, and he made such a terrible onslaught on their leaders that he became known as the "Bishop of Baggy." He rounded up the members, many of them his friends, and lambasted them in the warmest English ever used in a debate. He was the foremost foe of Roger C. Mills, the ambitious legal leader of the dark lantern clan of the Know-Nothings, and he carried a political chip around on his shoulder. The party was organized into legions in every neighborhood before the majority knew of it, and it was almost impossible to find out who belonged to it. The fighting parson had plenty to do for several years in fighting this party.

Colonel Durant was a member of the State senate and a leader in all movements for the moral and educational advancement of the people. He was a most generous man, and a very popular one. He was a native of South Carolina, where he engaged in several duels before he went to Texas. It was said he

was the most fascinating story-teller in the whole State and was welcomed everywhere. He was an orator of renown and was one of the fiercest debaters in the South. He was never downed but once, and that was when he was making a speech against the Know-Nothings in an old mill and the old miller started the crazy old wheel. Colonel Durant died a few years ago at a very advanced age.

A general feeling of sadness pervades the middle division of the Pension Office on account of the sudden death of Mr. William H. Greer, who for many years had been in charge of the widows' files of that division. Less than a week ago Mr. Greer was at his desk apparently in good health. On Friday last he was seized with illness and entered Garfield Hospital for treatment. Typhoid fever had begun its deadly work, and the patient never rallied.

Of a quiet, unassuming disposition, Mr. Greer had for years been in charge of one of the most important branches of his division, keeping it thoroughly up to the standard of excellence, yet with an innate modesty he was modestly disposed to credit others with the perfection of the work than to seek praise for himself. Possessing all the qualifications of perfect manhood, he had the friendship and esteem of his fellow-clerks, to whom the sudden taking off of their co-laborer came as a shock.

Major John O'Connell, who has been employed in the Patent Office for many years, is very ill at Providence Hospital. He is one of the oldest employees of the office and is quite popular with the entire force. He is well known outside the office and has many friends all over the country, who are seriously concerned about his condition.

Major O'Connell is a veteran of the civil war. He was a member of a Pennsylvania volunteer regiment and was in many battles. At an engagement in Missouri he was under General Lyon, and was but a few feet away when the gallant soldier was killed. General Lyon was shot from his horse and died almost instantly. Before the war the major was in the regular army and had arduous service in the West. His experience in the regular army was of great value to him and to his comrades in the war between the States and he was one of the best of soldiers. He is a native of New York.

Major O'Connell was appointed to a position in the Patent Office in 1878 and has for the greater part of that time been employed on the "Official Gazette," as a copyist. He is noted for his faithfulness and ability and is regarded as one of the best men on the force.

Prof. C. B. Van Hise, of the Geological Survey, is on a tour of the country to visit several of his assistants at their various posts. He will be assisted by Mr. C. K. Lettice in the preparation of a final monograph on the Lake Superior region. For several years geologists have been at work about the lake and have gathered many interesting facts which will appear in the promised book. The monograph is being prepared by Prof. Van Hise with the assistance of Dr. W. S. Bailey and in the surveys of Rhode Island and Connecticut by Dr. W. H. Hobbs. He also has assistants in the Philadelphia district. Prof. Van Hise's specialties are the pre-Cambrian and meta-morphic rocks of the United States.

Capt. W. R. Ramsey, of the specification division of the Government Printing Office, is spending his vacation in the upper part of Maryland. He will be gone for a week or more. Captain Ramsey is one of the most prominent printers in the Union. He is a civil war veteran with a bright record and an intelligent and amiable gentleman.

Officials at the State and Treasury Departments are watching with interest the project of three young men who have undertaken to explore the wreck of the City of Rio Janeiro, the big steamer which went down off San Francisco a year ago carrying over a hundred people to death. Among the passengers were John G. Williams, a Philadelphia life, returning from Hong Kong, China. It will be remembered that there was a sensational law suit over the Williams estate, in which the main point at issue was who of the pair died first. There is hope in the wreck and the young men hope to strike it rich. The device to be used is a tower-like structure which is to be sunk. It is fitted up with an elaborate system of lights and air pipes. The Government will probably have an expert on hand to witness the exploit.

Government clerks will talk politics and the chiefs can't help it. There is a large amount of interest in the elections in several States. Among the Western States there is most interest in Iowa. An Iowa man in the Navy Department states that he has seen letters from home and articles in the papers which induce him to believe there is going to be some fun in the Third district, which is represented by Speaker Henderson. The Democrats are making the hardest sort of a fight on the Speaker. That attitude has not yet been named but it will either be Horace Boies or his son, E. L. Boies. They will be but one name before the convention and it will be one of the "Uncle Horace" will be in the fight anyway and it will be a good one.

Mr. C. H. Ennis, of the proofreading force in the Government Printing Office, is one of the young men who have made good use of their time since getting Government positions. He is a member of the district bar, having graduated from Georgetown Law School with the degree of master of law. He is a capable young man and his friends think he will make a fine lawyer.

Mr. Ennis is also a military man. He has been identified with the United States National Guard for several years and has risen from the ranks to the position of second lieutenant. He is an officer of Company A, First Battalion, First Regiment.

Mr. J. H. Heslet is acting assistant foreman of the third division of the Government Printing Office in the absence of Mr. A. L. Randall.

JEALOUS WOMAN USES PISTOL AND POISON

Shot Wife of Employer and Then Drank Laudanum

Enraged Because Man for Whom She Had Been Keeping House Married Again.

WILMINGTON, Del., Aug. 12.—Jealousy, it is now thought, was the reason which prompted Mrs. Ida Rowe, a widow to attempt murder and suicide yesterday.

She fired three shots from a pistol at Mrs. Charles H. Wilson, at the latter's home, 615 East Tenth Street, and then swallowed laudanum herself. Two of the bullets took effect in Mrs. Wilson's arm, but the wounds are not serious. Mrs. Rowe was taken to the Delaware Hospital, and will recover.

Mrs. Rowe was formerly housekeeper for Charles H. Wilson, a baggage-master running between this city and Philadelphia, on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad. Wilson formerly lived at Delaware City, but later moved here, and Mrs. Rowe continued as housekeeper until Wilson married.

Then she got another position. Recently she wrote Mr. Wilson, telling him that she was going away. Yesterday she sent a boy to the Wilson house, and wanted the letter back. Mrs. Wilson replied that her husband had it. Later Mrs. Rowe herself appeared.

"I want that letter," she said to Mrs. Wilson.

"I have not got it," replied the woman.

Immediately Mrs. Rowe drew a pistol and fired three shots point blank at Mrs. Wilson as she stood in the doorway. Mrs. Wilson grappled with her assailant, and neighbors hurried to her assistance. Walter B. Cooper seized the pistol which Mrs. Rowe still held in her hand.

In the other hand was an empty laudanum vial. The police took Mrs. Rowe to the Delaware Hospital. Mrs. Wilson quietly walked into the drug store of Dr. Thomas D. Cook, and had her wounded arm dressed. Members of the family declined to make a statement, and the only solution the police can think of is that Mrs. Rowe was angry because Wilson had married a second time.

BACHELORS DENOUNCED AS MORAL DEGENERATES

Chancellor of University of Nebraska Surprises His Listeners.

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—"Bachelors are moral degenerates. From them emanates most of the sin and shame of the world. They are lacking in mental and physical poise. The life of no individual is complete unless he or she has a life companion of the opposite sex."

Here, in a nutshell, is the condemnation pronounced upon the unmarried individual by Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, chancellor of the University of Nebraska, in a lecture before the students and friends of the University of Chicago yesterday.

Bachelor men in the audience listened and looked foolish. Bachelor girls gasped in embarrassment. The married folk present smiled approval while the brand of the erudite doctor was being applied.

"Providence intended that man and woman should marry," continued the speaker. "The world was made for the family, and not the individual. The unmarried individual of marriageable age has no place in society nor in the scheme of the universe. Individuals who do not form legal ties with the opposite sex will form illegal ones. The world does not want that kind of life. Marriage is a good thing, the great joy and comfort of the world—the ones whose works were best for posterity—have been married."

MINISTERS OPPOSE SUNDAY FUNERALS

Pennsylvania Pastors Adopt Resolutions Against Them.

NORRISTOWN, Pa., August 12.—The pastors of the Presbyterian, Christian Methodist, Holiness, Christian and Free Baptist churches, respectively, Revs. John Shephard, John Fenwick, Eli Pickersill, L. F. Bauserman, and William Warren, of Conshohocken and vicinity, have passed resolutions against Sunday funerals, which they believe tend to create show, entail unnecessary labor on the day of rest and are demoralizing. They request that they be not invited to attend funerals on Sunday, suggesting Saturday afternoon instead.

JUSTICES CHANGE SEATS ON GRAY'S RETIREMENT

Supreme Court Members Assigned Thereby to New Locations.

The appointment of Judge Oliver Wendell Holmes, of Massachusetts, to the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, to the vacancy caused by the retirement of Associate Justice Gray, will necessitate, according to the custom, a change in the seating of nearly all the members of the court.

The only members who will not be affected are Chief Justice Fuller and Associate Justice Harlan, the latter as the senior member sitting on the right of the Chief Justice. When the court convenes in October the members of the bench will be seated as follows:

To the right of the Chief Justice—Justices Harlan, Brown, White, and McKenna; to the left of the Chief Justice—Justices Brewer, Shiras, Peckham, and Holmes.

This, in effect, causes a complete exchange of seats, in a body, from the left side to the right, Justices Brown, White, and McKenna having heretofore sat next to Justice Gray at the left of the Chief Justice.

DEVER CHALLENGES SHEEHAN TO DEBATE

"Big Bill" Anxious to Contrast Characters.

Question to Be Settled by Vote of Audience—The One With Fewest Ballots Wins.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—"In view of his attacks on me which I ordinarily would pass unnoticed, I hereby challenge John C. Sheehan to a public debate at any place in the Ninth assembly district. The subject of the said discussion at this public meeting shall be my character and his contrasted. After the said debate the whole question shall be voted on by the audience, the disputant getting the fewest votes to pay all expenses of the joint debate. 'Now, let him make good.'"

William S. Devery issued the foregoing challenge last night to one of his two opponents in the fight for the Tammany leadership of the Ninth assembly district. It was the production of the consulting committee of the Four Corners Club, now the William S. Devery Association, and was the result of an hour's hard work. Many sheets of paper were spoiled in the making of it, and Devery himself looked as if he had been in the hot room of a Turkish bath when it was finished. At times argument over causes was spirited.

It took at least fifteen minutes to do up a paragraph in which Devery was asked to be deposited with the sporting editor of some newspaper could be left out. Devery himself rather favored the idea, saying if Sheehan would put up the money he would "welch," but the "big chief" was persuaded to "cut it out."

"I'm on the level with this thing," he said, after his literary labors were finished. "This man Sheehan's sending out circulars attacking my private character, and I'm going to give him a chance to tell all he knows. I don't care where it's held and I don't care when, so long as it's before the primaries. Just let him throw it in to me for all he's worth, and if it's right, why, the people know what they can do to me. Then I guess I can hand out a few things about Sheehan. Maybe he knows it, too. He never yet faced an accusation. I don't believe he's got the nerve to come up now. I hope he has, and then we can put it up to the people to decide which of us is the worst."

The "Risk" Was Alive.

So conclusive did the evidence of young Russell's death appear to be that yesterday representatives of insurance companies called on Mrs. Cutleyhow to pay the money due her on the death of her nephew. But the money was never paid, for standing in the doorway was the "risk" in the very best of health.

Russell now says he is thoroughly ashamed of himself and will never run away again. Of the remarkable results of his conduct he cannot fail to be reminded, for prominently displayed in the parlor of his home is a beautiful cushion of roses, on which is inscribed in immortal the mournful words, "Our Russell."

"GENTLEMAN BURGLAR" NOW SAFELY IN JAIL

Carried From His Residence on a Mattress and Driven to the Lockup.

CHESTER, Vt., Aug. 12.—Clarence Adams, once the town's most distinguished resident and now called the "Gentleman Burglar," was being jailed at Woodstock, chiefly for safekeeping, on a mittimus issued by the county court judge at Woodstock.

Adams was taken from his home by the deputies on a mattress and placed in a wagon. Others went as an escort and Adams' removal was quietly done so that the townspeople did not gather to see the departure.

It is expected that Adams will have a hearing this week.

RETURNED HOME DAY AFTER OWN FUNERAL

Boy Supposed to Be Buried Was Alive and Well.

RAN AWAY TO SECURE WORK

Unknown River Victim Mistaken for a Tacony Youth and Interred at the Family's Expense—Says He's Sorry for All the Trouble He Has Caused.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 12.—While his relatives were still sorrowing for James Russell Glasgow, who was supposedly buried on Monday, the boy, well and hearty, calmly walked into his aunt's house at Tacony. Some hours later when the agents of an insurance company called to pay the policy on the boy's life, the "risk" himself met them at the door with a smile on his face.

Such is the strange state of affairs which developed last yesterday afternoon in Tacony, and which somewhat resembles the adventure of Mark Twain as Tom Sawyer, and his chum "Huck" Finn, of early Mississippi days.

Russell is fourteen years of age, and has a bad habit of running away from home. He lived with his aunt, Mrs. Mary Cutleyhow, on Keystone Street, above Cottman, Tacony. He left the house on July 16 with the intention, he says, of finding work and later returning to surprise his aunt with the results of his industry.

Finding no employment in Tacony he boarded the "peddlers" train for Bristol, where he managed to secure a position in Gilmore's wallpaper factory. Through the kindness of a stranger, Mrs. Holt, of 41 Barn Street, he was given a good home, and with the \$5 he earned each week he was getting along well.

In the meantime his aunt searched Tacony high and low for the boy. Finally on Friday of last week she read of an unidentified boy found drowned in the Schuylkill. She hastened to the city and at the morgue identified the drowned lad as her nephew. Her conviction was based on the facts that the boy had a lump on his right ear, similar to one caused by a baseball bat on Russell, and that he had light hair and long slender hands.

Funeral Over Wrong Body.

The body was taken to Tacony, the funeral held on Monday, and one day later the unsuspecting cause of all the trouble calmly made his appearance. The boy's whereabouts were discovered by Emma Evis, who lives near the Cutleyhow home and works in the Gilmore mill at Bristol. On her way to work on Monday she saw a group of boys playing ball. Looking closer she was amazed to find that one of them was Russell Glasgow. She at once notified her brother, who told Mrs. Cutleyhow. Yesterday morning the latter sent her two foster sons, Henry and William Glasgow, to Bristol, where they found the wayward boy and brought him home.

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SCALDED TO DEATH BY BURSTING CYLINDER

Enveloped in the Flames and Half Baked.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Aug. 12.—Homer Miller, of Steelton, was scalded to death in an accident at the Pennsylvania Steel Works at midnight. Miller was completely enveloped in flames from a bursting steam cylinder and was in a half-naked condition when he was taken to the company's surgeon's office.

He died in terrible agony at the Harrisburg Hospital this morning.

MAY DEFEAT GIBSON.

Tennessee Democrats Think This Is Possible—Mr. Thompson Talks.

Mr. F. M. Thompson, of Nashville, Tenn., the chairman of the Democratic State committee of Tennessee, who was a caller yesterday at the headquarters of the Democratic Congressional committee, discussed the situation in that State. He reports that there is no doubt about the election of at least eight Democratic Congressmen from Tennessee this fall, and from present conditions that there is a chance of returning nine.

Heretofore the Republicans have been certain of two members, from the First and Second districts, which are located in the eastern section of the State. The fact that at the recent State election four counties which have been Republican for years, went Democratic, has aroused the hope among the Democrats that possibly Representative Gibson may be defeated. All of these counties are in his district, and in view of this fact the Democrats will make a lively contest.

In case the disturbance in the Republican ranks in that district is not quieted, there is said to be a show for a Democrat from the Second district. It is admitted, however, that under the most favorable circumstances the Democrats will have a very hard and uphill fight. Gibson has been elected four times from the district, and in 1900 he defeated his Democratic opponent by more than 12,000 majority. In fact, he received more than twice as many votes as his rival.

CHINESE LANGUAGE VERY EASY TO LEARN

So Says Consular Agent Neuer, at Gera.

Only Three Thousand Symbols to Be Memorized Then One's Business With Orientals Will Flourish.

While China is considered the land of promise for American manufacturers and farmers, the importance of a knowledge of the Chinese language is greatly undervalued, says Consular Agent Charles Neuer, at Gera, in a communication to the State Department. He also submits the details of a recent interview with a linguist who has given special attention to this subject.

"It is well understood," he says, "that in order to enter into permanent commercial relations with a foreign country it is indispensable to know its language. When Russian industries began to develop the Germans recognized that in order to engage in profitable trade in that country it was necessary to learn Russian, and there is now no country where the Russian language is so much taught as in Germany."

"The Chinese language is ideographic," says the consular agent. "It conveys the idea, and not the word, for a thing, as the figure 8 represents the idea and not the word. The Chinese have invented more than 40,000 marks for their writing. In the opinion of my informant it will require only about 3,000 marks for mercantile correspondence, and it will be easier to learn them because of the variety of dialects; but anyone can learn enough of the writings to answer ordinary purposes in a few months and have his knowledge perfected by a linguist in about a year. An exact instruction in one of the Chinese languages can be given only by a Chinaman."

This method has been adopted in Germany. Besides the professor for the theory of language, there are four Chinese linguists in the Oriental Seminary of Berlin teaching the business style and the languages of Peking, Shanghai, Canton. It is not intended to fit pupils for the diplomatic service, but for commercial work."

"Russian is more difficult for Americans than Chinese. It takes much longer to learn the spoken language, because of the variety of dialects; but anyone can learn enough of the writings to answer ordinary purposes in a few months and have his knowledge perfected by a linguist in about a year. An exact instruction in one of the Chinese languages can be given only by a Chinaman."

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KILLED BECAUSE HE DIDN'T DRINK BEER

Murder Committed at a Pennsylvania Wedding Celebration.

HAZLETON, Pa., Aug. 12.—Because John Shigo, of Stockton, refused to drink five glasses of beer which had been placed before him at one time at a wedding celebration in Stockton last night his host, Daniel Hunchuck, struck him over the head with a club. Shigo's skull was fractured and he died shortly afterward.

The murderer escaped.

LEADING ORGANIST DEAD.

Dr. Benton Tipton, of Albany, Passes Away in That City.

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 12.—Dr. Benton Tipton, organist of All Saints' Cathedral and one of the best-known and most accomplished organists in this part of the State, is dead after an illness of several weeks. Dr. Tipton was a native of England, and came here some years ago.

He was organist in Christ Episcopal Church in Philadelphia some time and then went to Baltimore. He came to Albany ten years ago. The magnificent and complicated new organ at All Saints' was secured through his labor. He went among the wealthy members of the congregation and raised the money for its purchase.

He superintended the installation, and had just succeeded in getting it into good working order when he fell ill. The organ is operated by electricity, and is one of the finest instruments in the country.

Dr. Tipton received the degree of doctor of music some years ago from St. Stephen's College at Annandale.

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